

crime because they are taught from infancy that crime is evil. The only way society has ever found to discourage misconduct is to label it clearly as either a crime or sin, or both, and then punish it accordingly."

Then the superintendent of schools concludes: "Only when we adults, in our homes, our churches, our businesses, decide that we are going to set a decent example and demand decent behavior from the young, will the children start growing up to become the kind of people we want them to be, and should have been ourselves." (Dr. Max Rafferty, *Salt Lake Tribune*, 1964. Copyright 1965, Los Angeles Times Syndicate.) How wise the words of this great educator! (65-02, pp. 496-97)

Homosexuality is not pure love. When we say love we are not talking about the loose use of it, and sometimes love of man to man can, of course, be prostituted into one of the ugliest relationships that we know, that we call homosexuality. So I define love as the Lord and the scriptures have defined it. "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15). (69-05)

The scriptures warn against homosexuality. We have a case again—the story of Sodom and Gomorrah. I bring this into your thinking because of the circumstances which justified the destruction. I suggest that you read Leviticus, the seventeenth and eighteenth chapters, and Deuteronomy 23:17, Romans 1:27, and 1 Corinthians 6:9. The sin that was most abhorred in the sight of God and which brought down the vengeance of heaven upon them. This isn't a pretty story. It is one that should strike terror to us as we contemplate similar things happening among us today: "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination. . . . If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them." (Leviticus 18:22; 20:13.) He is talking of homosexuality and the practice of it, as you can well understand. (54-09)

Homosexuality can be overcome. I was asked by a prominent family some years ago to work with a girl who was headed along the homosexual trail. As much as we deplore the ugliness of that word, it is among us, both among boys and girls, perhaps to a greater extent than we hardly realize. And so, yielding to the importunings of this

good father and mother, I sought with this girl to try to dissuade her from a course that she was about to take that would lead her further along this trail, and she just sort of laughed at me and she berated her father because he had snooped into her private affairs. Well, we talked and finally she just said, "Well, I can't make up my mind," which meant that she wasn't going to pay any attention to what I had said. And later that evening she came and repeated it, "Well, I still am undecided," just sort of smirking about the whole thing. Six months went by. . . .

[I was returning from a] meeting [one day, and] I walked down to my office and here was the girl I had had this struggle with, trying to dissuade her from her course and it looked like she was so far gone that I had about written her off my list of hopefuls at least. Her mother had pleaded, "Won't you give her a blessing?" . . . I took her in my office and thought I would talk with her a few minutes alone (she and her mother had been at loggerheads), and I said to her, "Well, now, you say you want me to give you a blessing? Now it would just be sheer mockery for me to put my hands on your head until you are prepared to take me by the right hand and look me squarely in the eye and tell me that from this time forth you will never again return to this ugly practice." And she buried her face in her arms and she sobbed, "But I love her, I love her so much." "Well," I said, "then you are just wasting my time and I am wasting yours. There is nothing I can do about it."

So we talked a little bit more and she cried, and finally she said, "Oh, Brother Lee, please, I promise you that I will never do this again. I need a blessing, please help me." With my hands on her head I had another experience. . . . [T]he impression came to have her pray as soon as I had finished, so I said to her, "Now I want you to kneel down and I want you to pray to God to give you the strength to do what you have promised me this day that you will do." And as she buried her face in the seat of that chair, I never heard such a prayer from a youth: "Please, Heavenly Father, you know that I want to be a wife, and I want to be a mother, help me to be a normal, natural woman. Father, help me to lick this cursed thing that is about to destroy my life," and she just pleaded and she sobbed.

Well, if you should see the girl today, you would see what Alma was when he came out of that three days' experience . . . , and you would see her as a wholly different [person] than the one who looked like she was far gone. But there was a spark still there; she hadn't

committed the unpardonable sin. And I was an agent; I was an agent of God to give to her some spiritual help to fan the flame that was flickering into a full burning desire to be a true woman. (62-02)

Transsexuality is a false doctrine. The Lord said: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and it was so. . . . And I, God, created man in mine own image, in the image of mine Only Begotten created I him; male and female created I them." (Moses 2:26, 27.) Do you need anything else to prove the falsity of any such hellish doctrine as this so-called "transsexuality" doctrine of some wild dreamer? The Lord created male and female, and He didn't have a woman's soul trapped in a man's body, or vice versa. (70-18)

Church members must not be of the world. I want to warn this great body of priesthood against that great sin of Sodom and Gomorrah, which has been labeled as a sin second only in seriousness to the sin of murder. I speak of the sin of adultery, which, as you know, was the name used by the Master as He referred to unlicensed sexual sins of fornication as well as adultery; and besides this, the equally grievous sin of homosexuality, which seems to be gaining momentum with social acceptance in the Babylon of the world, of which Church members must not be a part.

While we are in the world, we must not be of the world. Any attempts being made by the schools or places of entertainment to flaunt sexual perversions, which can do nothing but excite to experimentation, must find among the priesthood in this church a vigorous and unrelenting [opposition] through every lawful means that can be employed. (72-42, p. 106)

We should avoid "adult" entertainment. These are certainly some sobering thoughts for you men: I agree with the wife who said, "You men must put 'for adults only' movies out of your life. You men must put 'adults only' magazines out of your life. You must put 'adult humor only' out of your life. These three things alone will destroy you." Remember what the Lord said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, . . . and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself" (Luke 10:27). (73-29, p. 96)

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- 60-01 *True to the Faith*. Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1960, pp. 1-26.
- 60-02 "The Word of Wisdom: Its Bearing on Dating." *Church News*, 19 March 1960, pp. 4, 16; *Youth of the Noble Birthright*, pp. 121-32.
- 60-03 "What Kind of Dating Keeps Sabbath Spirit?" *Church News*, 26 March 1960, pp. 4, 15; YLW, ch. 8, pp. 68-73; *Youth of the Noble Birthright*, pp. 133-46.
- 60-04 Remarks, Paris, France, 29 March 1960.
- 60-05 "Dating, Leading to Ultimate Marriage." *Church News*, 2 April 1960, p. 5; *Youth of the Noble Birthright*, pp. 147-58.
- 60-06 Conference Report, 2 April 1960, pp. 3-13.
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- 61-06 "Priesthood: The Core of All Activity." Address delivered at Mission Presidents' Seminar, 2 July 1961. *Church News*, 8 July 1961, pp. 5, 11, 15; SHP, ch. 27, pp. 258-67.
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- 61-10 Conference Report, 30 September 1961, pp. 77-82; "New Plan of Co-ordination Explained." *Improvement Era* 65 (January 1962): 34-38.
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- 62-01 Alpine Stake Conference, 14 January 1962.
- 62-02 "The Light of Christ." Brigham Young University Institute of Religion, 3 February 1962.